



HR1113

LRB100 22109 MST 40509 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, Route 66 was designated in 1926 as America's Mother Road, linking the heartland with the Pacific Ocean and bringing millions of travelers to the many communities along its route, thereby creating a significant economic engine from Chicago to Los Angeles; and

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WHEREAS, Upon the replacement of Route 66 by the interstate system, which led to its decommissioning in 1985, an economic hardship resulted for those local businesses that thrived on providing services to the Route 66 traveler; and

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WHEREAS, Route 66 has become an iconic symbol of America's search for freedom, adventure, and prosperity which annually brings travelers from around the world to discover America; and

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WHEREAS, The U.S. Congress has recognized the importance of the road by establishing the National Park Service's Rt. 66 Corridor Preservation Program in the National Trails Office in 1999 to foster preservation, economic development, and marketing through matching grants, which has leveraged more than \$4 million in historic preservation investment; and

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WHEREAS, The NPS Rt. 66 Corridor Preservation Program will sunset in 2019, which would result in the lack of a federally

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1 designated organization to coordinate, fund, and support  
2 mutually beneficial activities on Route 66; and

3 WHEREAS, The Route 66 Road Ahead Partnership, a  
4 collaborative not-for-profit organization, was established to  
5 create a national coordinating structure and supports and  
6 promotes the idea of designating Rt. 66 as a National Historic  
7 Trail as the best means for ensuring a federal-level focus on  
8 Rt. 66; therefore, be it

9 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
10 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
11 urge the U.S. Congress to Pass H.R.801, introduced by U.S.  
12 Representative Darin LaHood, which would create the Route 66  
13 Historic Trail; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
15 delivered to all members of the Illinois Congressional  
16 Delegation and President Donald J. Trump.